

Appl. Serial No.: 10/661,804

cell receptor expressed on said T cells.

IX 21 A method of using CD4 or CD 25 binding agents for preparing a medicament for removal or impairing of CD4+CD25+ T cells to enhance immune response.

APPLICANTS' ELECTION

Applicants hereby elect the invention of Group IV, claim 12, drawn to a method to identify, monitor, or remove CD4⁺ CD25⁺ T cells from human blood and other tissue by using a binding agent, a stimulating agent or immunoadsorption method.

REMARKS

Claims 1-23 are now pending in the subject U.S. patent application. Claims 1-23 as filed have been subjected to a Restriction/Election Requirement.

In response to the Restriction/Election Requirement, applicants have elected the claim of Group IV, claim 12, for prosecution at this time.

Additionally, applicants have canceled herein claims 1-11 and 13-23, which are drawn to unelected subject matter. Applicants hereby reserve the right to file one or more divisional patent applications directed to the unelected subject matter.

Applicants have also amended claim 12. Support for the amendments to claims 12 can be found throughout the specification as filed, including particularly on page 4, lines 25-32; on page 7, lines 4-10 and 25-29; and on page 10, lines 4-12. Accordingly, no new matter has been added by the amendment to claim 12.

Discussion of the New Claims

New claims 24-27 have been added. Support for the new claims can be found throughout the specification as filed, including particularly in the claims as originally

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filed. Additional support can be found on page 4, lines 25-32; on page 7, lines 9-10 and 25-29; and on page 10, lines 4-12 (claim 24); on page 10, lines 8-10 (claim 25); on page 10, lines 4-12 (claim 26); and on page 4, lines 16-18 and 31-32, and on page 7, line 12 through page 8, line 13 (claim 27). Accordingly, no new matter has been added by the addition of the new claims.

Applicants respectfully submit that new claims 24-27 read on the elected subject matter as each claim is a dependent claim from elected claim 12. Accordingly, applicants respectfully submit that the subject matter of claims 12 and 24-27 all correspond to the elected invention, and respectfully request that the United States Patent and Trademark Office examine all of the claims together.

CONCLUSIONS

Should there be any minor issues outstanding in this matter, the Examiner is respectfully requested to telephone the undersigned attorney. Early passage of the subject application to issue is earnestly solicited.

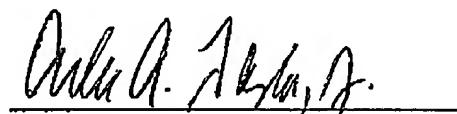
Deposit Account

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees associated with the filing of this correspondence to Deposit Account Number 50-0426.

Respectfully submitted,
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